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ABSTRACT

This book provides opportunities for engaging students in scientific investigations, offering a hands-on approach that encourages students to understand science concepts, gives them ways to apply the concepts, and introduces and reinforces the skills they need to become independent investigators. The basic outline and objectives of each section of the book follow the standards for students age 8-12 years set forth in the National Science Education Standards. Investigations can be adapted for students of different grade levels by increasing or decreasing the amount of information given. The book is organized into four sections addressing the scientific method and the three branches of science (physical science, life science, and earth and space sciences). Each of the latter three sections and the subsections within them open with a brief introduction identifying general objectives. Together they comprise a total of 75 investigations for students. Each investigation is accompanied by an overview with tips for teaching. Investigations follow a general format: purpose, materials, procedure, results, and why. Measurements used in the procedures of the investigations, as well as in the overviews, are given in English units with approximate metric equivalents in parentheses. (SM)

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